

117 Second Ave. New York City

Jan. 21. 1879

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Miss Garrison

Dear Sir— Your welcome favor of the 20<sup>th</sup> is before me. I thank you for your kind, prompt response, all the more sincerely, and heartily, when I remember, how many calls you have, on both time, and patience, on this very subject. Mr. Palmer not infrequently sus<sup>d</sup> Gov. Chaubutain and no doubt can get such a letter. He could also get one from Mr. Corbin, and Sen: Patterson of S.C. if of any use.

I agree with you concerning Mr. Chandler, who is one of our great men, although not fully appreciated, yet who is practically in advance of most of those whose positions would justify the expectation of wiser statesmanship than they exhibit, especially upon questions which embody so much of public weal. And if you will be good enough to interest him in my husband, I shall be very grateful, not only for myself, but for those who helplessly, and almost hopelessly eagerly listen for the faintest echo of a voice raised in their behalf at the North. Mr. Palmer has kept up a correspondence with both white and colored people in So. Ca. and was thereby enabled to render them service, in advising them in the last Campaign. They rely on him implicitly, where he is known, and do as he advises most always.

He had ballots printed here, in the last election, to avoid counterfeiting, but of what avail in the face of "outrage" and "tissue ballots"? but letters of cheer are a boon to these poor creatures, and they become hopeful, and strong,



when they receive the Doctors letters. (he has them printed for circulation among them) and they respond, saying, "Your letter Dr hoops us up," and encourage us to hold on, giving us faith that we still have friends at the North. Please pardon my prozing! but when I get on this subject, I can not stop, and expose myself to the risk of exhausting even your great patience. Many extracts from letters would speak more forcibly of the state of things, than I can.

I believe you are entirely right; and are almost the only man who appreciates the prominent part the "bloody shirt" must play, until its stains, not altogether symbolical, are washed out in a fountain of justice hardly unsealed. - My husband says, it must indeed be the battle cry of the Repub: party in the next campaign, and if its importance is underrated, by our leaders, we shall certainly see our government in the hands of its bitterest enemies, no matter what their pretensions may be. God grant that your warnings may be effective, and that the hearts of the people may bear witness to the truth of your words. -

No argument, is so dreaded by the genuine Southern Democrat, as the phrase "bloody shirt," which, with careless laugh, or scoff, and few they try to ignore. "We know these men!" and to quote my husbands words, "a calm steady unchanging cry of bloody shirt, coupled with a persistent statement of the naked truth" will demoralize them, and compel them to submit. You my dear Sir - have taken the initiative publicly, even as you did in the early contest for human rights.



Well do I remember a fiery controversy, between yourself, and Mr. Phillips, in the Old Mount Temple, Boston, years ago, when he wanted to change the name of the Anti Slavery Standard, (I think it was) but you insisted hotly, that the work of freeing the slave, had only begun. I agreed with you then, and time has proven you to be right.

You then prophesied some such condition, as has overtaken this down trodden, oppressed class. — yet, who will one day, more than justify the hopes, and expectations of their friends —

May God, spare you to us, and to this people, until the Nation, responds fully unto your long, unceasing cry, for justice, and may strength be given you, to pull down all the symbols of slavery, that are still flaunted in the faces of real patriots.

If men, ought to be statesmen, could see with your clearer vision, for only one hour, it would content me, almost, that they should do so, from even, "the low plane of party success" — to compass so great a good. —

We know however, that God accomplishes his divine ends, through men's ambition, and oftentimes their very wicked aims are made to subserve His purposes.

If you visit New York, we should feel greatly honored by a call from you. My husband may be in Boston soon on business, and will try and see you.

We are diverting some of our leisure time to writing a story, "The Carpet Bagmen of '76" incorporating in it much of our experience. What would you think of the utility of a book of this kind, simply, and fairly written? Perhaps I am asking too much, when



I invite your attention to all these matters, but,  
my only apology is, that my intense desire to get  
the truth before the people, induces me to pour my  
tale into your ears, always so ready to listen to any  
one who wants to see wrongs, righted.

Mr Palmer, desires me to thank you for your kind  
remembrances, which he responds to gratefully.

With respect, and esteem

I remain sincerely yours.

Elizabeth L. Palmer.

We read your lines with pleasure, and appreciation.  
Coupled with the conviction that the prophecy contained  
in them will be fully realized, and enjoyed.

Make such use of my letters as you please, suppressing  
the name. -

E. L. P.